

THE MORNING NEWS

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La Vista welcomed mult-generational families for their Thanksgiving feast



Three generations of Breiers

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba's restaurants were busy on Thursday evening, as vacationing and resident families gathered to celebrate a traditional American holiday in their "home away from home." La Vista, in the Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino was particularly busy, as large, multi-generational

clans took advantage of their sumptuous Thanksgiving buffet. Patrons enjoyed a classic holiday feast with turkey and all the trimmings, as well as the many gourmet stations, such as pasta and pizza, for which the restaurant is famous.

Business was so brisk, the La Vista outside patio was

filled with guests who favored the aspect of dining under the stars adjacent to the beach. The enclosed air-conditioned restaurant was also a popular option, allowing immediate access to the tempting buffet table and multiple carving stations.

Continued on pg 2

Happy times are here as Aruba puts on its holiday dress



Major traffic intersections are becoming focal points for seasonal celebrations as Aruba prepares for end of the year celebrations. The various rotundas around the islands may be covered with white pebbles to simulate snow, but the holiday cheer is just as much in force. This week it was the turn of the Tanki Leendert rotunda. The fantastical decorations and lighting at the roundabout was a cooperative effort by Scout group Ora Ubae with sponsorship from Subway who "adopted" the project.

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Venezuela's Maduro threatens arrests over prices

CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro vowed Friday to arrest shopkeepers who defy government price controls, the latest salvo in a populist "economic war" ahead of key municipal elections.

Maduro delivered the warning in a nationally televised address that laid the ground for tougher enforcement of a three-week-old crackdown on actions seen as fueling Venezuela's soaring inflation.

He urged authorities who find retail prices that have been raised "to act with all the severity of the law and, because they are crimes in flagrante, to proceed immediately to detain those responsible."

Using new powers to rule by decree, the socialist leader also ordered lower rents for commercial spaces and barred property owners from asking for payments in foreign currency.

"We are going all out. We

are taking measures with even more authority," he said.

The latest declarations came with Maduro facing a key test of political strength on December 8, when municipal elections will take place in the midst of a burgeoning economic crisis.

It will be the first elections since Maduro succeeded his political mentor, late leader Hugo Chavez, in April elections whose tight results the opposition has refused to recognize.

Inflation is running at 54 percent a year, shortages of basic goods are widespread despite the country's oil wealth and a hard currency crunch wreaking havoc on the import-dependent domestic economy.

Earlier this month, Maduro fired what he called his first salvo in an "economic war against the bourgeoisie and imperialism," the latter a reference to the United States or US interests.

Continued on pg 6


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La Vista welcomed mult- generational families...

Cont. from pg 1



Guests hailed from New York City, Atlanta, Georgia and Pittsburgh, Penn. the Midwest, and beyond, having traveled to Aruba with three generations (or more) to spend the holiday in the warm tropics. "We hear we are going back to snow and freezing temperatures," commented Molly from Pittsburgh, "you can be sure we are enjoying these balmy breezes and eating outdoors for Thanksgiving."

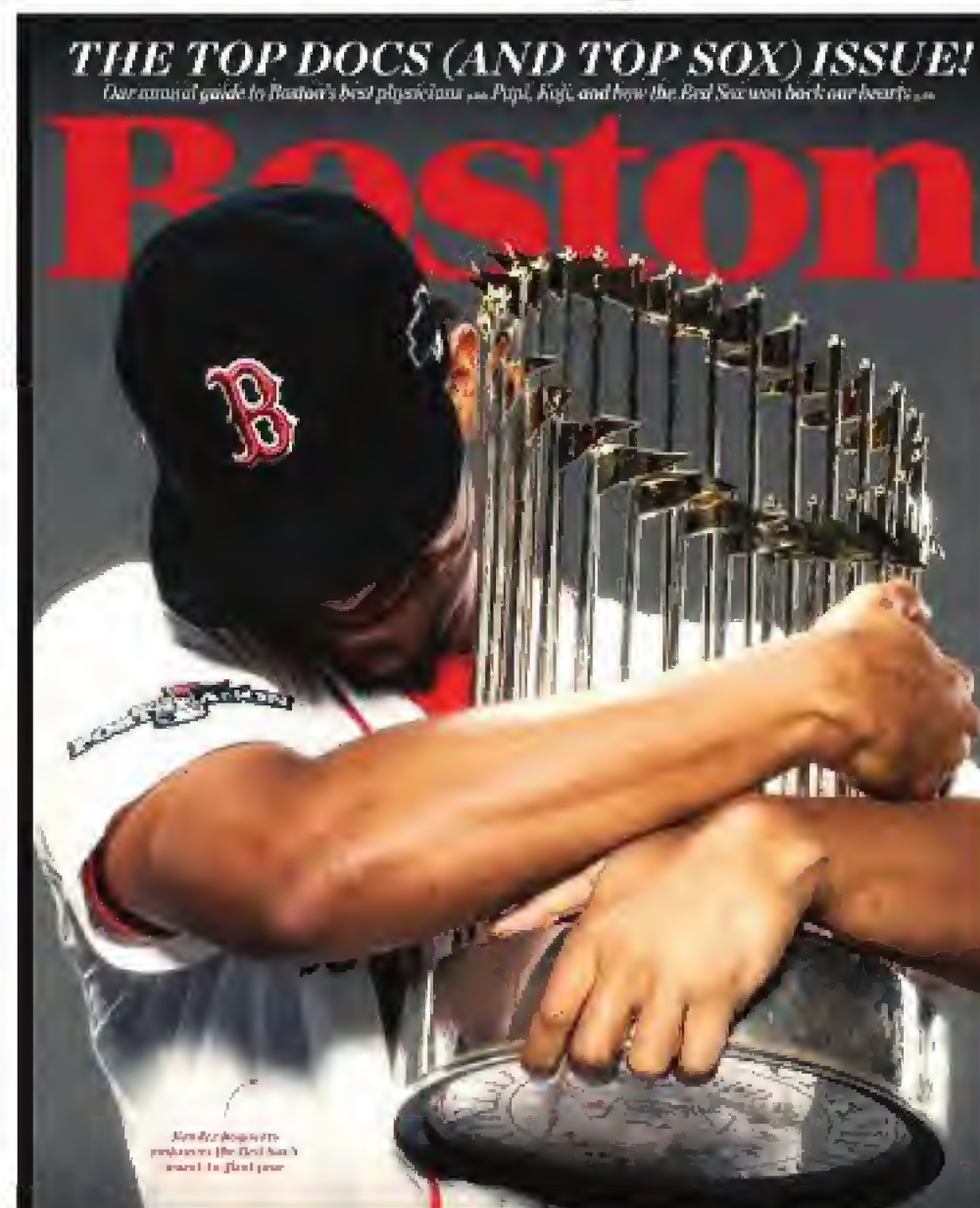
Nearly all THE MORNING NEWS spoke to had been to Aruba before. First-timers, like the Alexanders of Atlanta swore they would be back again. "We have traveled to other islands, but never quite had the ease and comfort of leaving our resort. We rented a car and went all around the island, even got a little lost, but people were very kind about showing us the way back. We really enjoyed this time together."

Those who chose to celebrate Thanksgiving at La Vista were also treated to a taste of Aruba's biggest event of the year, Carnival, with the Coco Rico Dancers. The exuberant group soon had many of the little ones up and dancing as well, for a Thanksgiving celebration, Aruban style!

By Rosalie Klein



Xander Bogaerts featured on the cover of December issue of Boston Magazine



ORANJESTAD -- For forty years, Boston Magazine has covered daily life and issues for this great Massachusetts city, and all islanders can be very proud that their December issue features on the cover the image of Aruba's native son, Xander Bogaerts, hugging the World Series 2013 trophy.

The publication Self-described as a magazine that epitomizes a city which is "Sophisticated, intellectual, and full of charm."

The cover blurb teases the article within as "How the Red Sox Won Back our Hearts." The city is in "in full Red Sox celebration mode," describing Xander as the "Red Sox rookie who stepped

up big in the postseason despite playing just a short time for Boston this year."

There is a touch of irony in his gracing the December cover, as Boston website carried a story by their contributing sportswriter, who also works for the Boston Daily, Damon Hathaway, titled "Let's Not Overhype Red Sox Prospect Xander Bogaerts." It was his response in August to criticism when Xander was not immediately put into play when he was moved up from the Minor League. The writer was defending the decision to keep Craig Middleton in, though that call did not last long.

Continued on pg 3

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Online shopping with E-Post will fund breakfast for less fortunate Aruban students



Founder John Fung and Jennifer Kock of Post Aruba

ORANJESTAD -- On Thursday, November 28, Jennifer Kock of Post Aruba N.V. announced their E-Post online Shopping service will be allotting a donation for each and all transactions until December 20. During that time \$5 (US) will be donated to the Aruban foundation "Ban uni man pa cria nos Muchanan." (Let's Join hands to feed our Children)

The foundation provides daily breakfast for 778 elementary schools students from less fortunate families.

The foundation was initiated as a social project by the

employees of the Faculty Service of Dr. Horacio E. Oduber Hospital. After a short trial period, they were officially incorporated and registered in 2001.

They began their program with a thorough study in 12 island elementary schools. They began by providing breakfasts for 138 children from financially stressed families, and by the end of the year was providing 658 breakfasts daily. Presently, they provide meals for students in 52 schools around the island.

Presently, they have 550

sponsors, one for each child, but with 778 youngsters in the program, and the wish to add more, they need further support from the community. The cost of sponsoring a child for the month is 25 Aruban florins.

"Ban uni man pa cria nos Muchanan," is registered as a non-profit with Aruba's Chamber of Commerce and all staff work on a volunteer basis. All funds are used to purchase the food for the children. They receive no funding from the government, and depend entirely on sponsors and donations. Founder John Fung revealed these have decreased significantly in the past year, as the increasing number of new foundations vie for donations from companies and organizations. They also lost major sponsorship with the close of the refinery and the disbanding of their Aruba Way Foundation.

Post Aruba feels the spirit of the season is one of giving, and has decided on this campaign to raise awareness and funds for their important work. In addition to their fundraising efforts to feed the

children, they have also launched a Facebook campaign wish consists of a wish list where participants can win a gift worth up to \$100 U.S. To participate, you must be a resident of Aruba. Visit the FB page, "Like" it, then register as a Post Aruba member on their official website www.postaruba.com.

On the Post Aruba website, click on "E-Post" and post the desired gift in the wish list comments on Facebook. The comment must refer to an item costing \$100 or less, which can be found online and shipped from the U.S. Include a link where the item is listed, and explain why you wish to receive this particular gift, in 50 words or less. The best story will win. The winner will be announced on January 3, 2014, on the Post Aruba Facebook page wall, and the winner will also receive a notice in their Facebook message inbox. As soon as E-post has chosen a winner, they will order the item for them and have it shipped to Aruba.

By Rosalie Klein

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(Rice, coleslaw, french fries, fried plantain)	

Ask for the Soup of the Day

Italiestraat # 50 (Orange Plaza) Closed on Mondays

Xander Bogaerts featured on the cover...

Cont. from pg 2

Xander was soon eased into the line-up, and soon proved that the hopes and expectations of Red Sox management was not misplaced.

Now described as "the future and hope of the Red Sox," he delivered an outstanding performance during

the American League Championships and the World Series. Just when the team needed something to spark them, he stole a base or home to bring in the first run, or his powerful hit multiple players into home plate to rack up the score for Boston. Sportswriters were praising his fielding skills and performance at bat.

"Expecting Bogaerts to be anything more than a rotational player—much less pinning any part of the Red Sox's postseason success on him—would be a mistake. For every Machado or Wil Myers, there are as many, if not more, players who—despite tremendous potential—are not Major League ready when they are first called up" wrote Hathaway in mid-August. We don't mean to crow, but we imagine the writer must have been dining on some since October 30th, and again, now that Xander is the magazine's cover boy for December!

Unfortunately, postings on Internet blogs, especially those associated with a major magazine with a circulation of 500,000, do not disappear, as much as the writer would hope they could. The full article can be seen here, <http://www.boston-magazine.com/news/blog/2013/08/13/lets-not-overhype-red-sox-prospect-xander-bogaerts/>

In retrospect, it provides some humorous reading

By Rosalie Klein



Nominees for Teacher of the Year have been chosen

ORANJESTAD -- For the third consecutive year the Department of Education and the Ministry of Education have chosen a nominee for Teacher of the Year.

For Special Education, Marisol Croes-Franciscus of Scol Dun'un Man has been nominated. According to Marisol....."wherever I go I am always looking out for the children, offering them smiles and making sure they are safe. This is more than just a job, it is chance to care and educate a child. I feel responsible for each child who is part of my class, my family."

For Preparatory Education (Kindergarden) Charity Croes of Arco Iris Kleuterschool is the nominee Teacher of the Year...."From a very young age I began working in different activities having to do with children. For example in my church I worked in the Sunday School department, I also worked at Centro Juvenil Washington for camps. Working with children gives me much pleasure to see them grow and to contribute to their formation and development. This is what made me choose this profession."

For Basic Education, Tere-sita (Sita) de Costa of the Maria Regina School is the other nominee Teacher of the Year. She said...."Frankly, I

never thought of a career as a teacher. But once I chose this career I could not think of anything better. It is a dynamic profession, where you are constantly touching young lives in a positive way. Our schools must become places where children want to go to learn and feel good, protected, loved and a place where they can feel valued."

For Secondary Education, Mariana Jimenez-Angela is the chosen nominee Teacher of the Year. Mariana teaches ASW at Colegio EPI...."I wanted a change of career as I am originally trained as a Social Worker. I had teachers who inspired me. For me it is a privilege to work with young people and to guide them on the right track. Young people need attention. Many times young people will be shouting to the world that they are in because they have a problem and don't know how to get out of it. I have felt the call to help adolescents."

For Post-Secondary Education, Sarah Sambo is the nominee Teacher of the Year from Colegio EPI-Salubridad...."My desire was to change profession from Social Worker to the teaching profession."

Continued on pg 5

Thanksgiving with family was just as enjoyable without turkey at El Gaucho

ORANJESTAD -- Traditionalists may think that Thanksgiving without a turkey dinner is a crime, but scores of families vacationing on Aruba chose a superb steak at El Gaucho as their way to share the holiday with loved ones.

The popular Argentinean steakhouse in Oranjestad was filled to overflowing for the holiday, and those that elected to celebrate the occasion with a great cut of beef swore they "wouldn't have it any other way."

Rita Reith of Westchester, New York, expressed how pleased she was not to have to work on the holiday, even though they have a complete kitchen at their timeshare. "Nope, this is my vacation too," she asserts. "We come with the kids every year at this time, and have celebrated at El Gaucho before. We know we will always get a great meal here."

The relief that turkey was not on the menu was obvious and unanimous from the Thalheimer family of Richmond, Virginia, who all preferred a nice cut of beef for their Thanksgiving dinner. El Gaucho was also not a first stop for them, either.

The Lawery clan of Charlotte, North Carolina, visiting Aruba for the first time, opted for the unusual, even though they could have had a traditional turkey dinner at their all-inclusive resort. "We wanted a change for the holiday, just the family in a cozy setting," explained patriarch and matriarch John and Tiffany. "A friend of ours, who has been to Aruba many times, told us we couldn't leave the island without one meal at El Gaucho. He said they serve 'the best steak we will ever have.' We have to



admit, it was pretty good, and a nice change of pace over the usual Thanksgiving fare."

El Gaucho Steakhouse in Oranjestad is one of those restaurants that frequent visi-

tors always have starred on their list of places to return to. For many at this time of year, it is their favorite Thanksgiving tradition.

By Rosalie Klein

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Partial closure of crossing Oude Schoolstraat - Nieuwstraat this weekend



ORANJESTAD – The Department of Public Works – DOW – announces that it will partially close the crossing Oude Schoolstraat – Nieuwstraat to cover the drainage system that was recently installed on the road. The closure is from Saturday, November 30 starting at 6:00 a.m., until Sunday, December 1, at 6:00 p.m. The crossing will be closed for all traffic going in the Oude Schoolstraat, thus there will be no right turn. There will be a temporary change of direction which will be indicated with traffic signs and barricades to alert all motorists. DOW asks all motorists to take good notice. DOW asks for everyone's understanding and apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

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Nominees for Teacher of the Year...

Continued from pg 4



Today, I am standing before a class for 10 years and everyday

I am learning something new from my students. I am always

open for feedback and constructive criticism from my col-

leagues. What gives me much pleasure every year is to see students receive their diploma and their smile because they achieved their dream."

For a complete review of each interview, visit the Education Department website at www.ea.aw.

The Teacher of the Year

project is designed to focus primarily on the positive things taking place in the classroom. Thanks to each teacher's efforts. In the month of December the final announcement of which one of the above nominees will be the official Teacher of the Year for 2013.

Venezuela's Maduro threatens arrests over prices

Continued from pg 1

He ordered home appliance stores to slash prices and deployed National Guard troops to enforce the measure.

This unleashed a tumultuous early start to the Christmas shopping season with Venezuelans mobbing consumer electronic stores for windfall bargains.

The National Assembly then granted Maduro special decree-making powers, which he immediately used to impose price controls and cap profit margins at 30 percent.

Maduro was scheduled to hold a working meeting later Friday at the presidential Miraflores Palace that was expected to produce his next set of economic initiatives.

The federation of commerce chambers Fedecamaras, which represents private business and is frequently at odds with Maduro, urged him to stimulate production by guaranteeing respect for private property and access to hard currency.

Critics have blamed the government's strict currency controls for exacerbating Venezuela's price distortion and fueling a black market

for dollars.

Fedecamaras president Jorge Roig said more than 200,000 businesses have had to shut their doors in the past decade.

He complained that only two percent of companies are receiving dollars at a preferential official rate of 6.3 bolívars to the US currency, though the government insists that greenbacks are being distributed to businesses.

"We need measures that are not improvised, which encourage production in Venezuela, which don't think only in the short-term," Roig said Thursday.

"We need measures that are part of a discussion with all businesses."

Maduro countered that Fedecamaras was a "coup-monger," recalling that the business group had backed Chavez's ouster in a short-lived 2002 coup.

"We have forced them to get out of their lair," he said. "It's the same Fedecamaras... which headed the coup d'etat against comandante Hugo Chavez in April 2002."

Mozambique passenger plane carrying 34 missing: airline

MAPUTO (AFP) - A Mozambican Airlines airplane carrying 28 passengers and six crew members went missing en route from Mozambique to Angola on Friday, the airline said.

Flight TM470 took off from Maputo at 09H26 GMT and had been due to land in the Angolan capital Luanda at 13H10 GMT, but never arrived, the airline said in a statement.

"Initial information suggests it might have landed in Rundu, in northern Namibia near the border with Botswana and Angola."

"LAM airlines, aeronautical and airport authorities are trying to establish contact to confirm the information," it added.

Company spokesman Norberto Mucopa could not confirm the nationalities of the people on board the Brazilian-made Embraer 190 or if they included government officials.

"The last contact was in the north of Namibia," he told AFP.

LAM CEO Marlene Manave told journalists the last contact with the aircraft had been at 1130 GMT.

Heavy rain in the area where it disappeared complicated the search, she said, according to Canalmoz newspaper.

A police commander confirmed the incident to AFP in Namibia.

"We are busy searching. It's dark now and it makes our job a bit difficult," said Olavi Auanga, police commander of the Kavango West region, where the control tower lost signal with the aircraft.

An aviation officer in the area told AFP on condition of anonymity that unconfirmed reports suggested the airplane may have gone down in the Bwabwata National Park around 200 kilometres (124 miles) east of Rundu.

The 6,100-square-kilometre (618-square-mile) reserve covers the narrow strip of land formerly known as the Caprivi strip, a sparsely-populated area with wetlands and dense forests.

The European Union banned LAM from flying in its airspace in 2011.

"Significant safety deficiencies" led to the blacklisting of all air carriers certified in Mozambique, the EU said at the time.

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Obama visits immigration hunger strikers in US capital

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama paid a visit Friday to hunger strikers calling for immigration reform, who are camped out on the National Mall in Washington.

Accompanied by his wife, Michelle, the president stopped by the grassy esplanade several hundred meters (yards) from the White House, in a trip that was not mentioned in his official daily agenda.

The president and the first lady were visiting individuals taking part in "Fast For Families" on the National Mall to "offer their support for those who are fasting on behalf of immigration reform," the White House said.

Journalists accompanying the couple were kept at a distance.

During their visit, the Obamas thanked the activists

for their "sacrifice and dedication" according to a White House official.

"The president told them that it is not a question of whether immigration reform will pass, but how soon," the official said.

Since November 12, the immigrant rights activists, who have set up a tent a stone's throw from the US Capitol building, have been on hunger strike, urging the House of Representatives to vote for an immigration reform measure already approved by the Senate.

The official said that the president told the activists "that the only thing standing in the way is politics, and it is the commitment to change, from advocates like these brave fasters, that will help pressure the House to finally act."

The reform, which would bring one of Obama's major 2008 and 2012 presidential

campaign promises to fruition, was adopted by the Senate, dominated by Obama's Democratic allies, on June 27.

The Senate plan, crafted and approved with Republican support, would give some 11 million people living illegally in the country US citizenship under strict conditions and after a minimum transitory 13-year period.

It would also strengthen the border with Mexico and reorganize the visa system to give priority to high-demand fields, including engineers and farm workers.

House Speaker John Boehner recently said he was willing to have his chamber consider such a measure, but in a piece-by-piece manner.

It's an approach that Obama, speaking in San Francisco Monday, said would work "as long as all the pieces get done."

Colombian FARC rebels say they taxed coca growers

HAVANA (AFP) - Colombia's FARC rebels acknowledged Friday that they collected taxes from coca cultivators but rejected accusations of "narco-terrorism."

"We saw ourselves forced to set up a system of fiscal contributions and transaction regulations with the farmers, taking into consideration their rights and protecting them from abuse from intermediaries and drug traffickers," they said in a statement.

The remarks by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia came on the second day of a renewed round of peace talks with the government aimed at ending their near 50-year conflict.

Considered Latin America's longest-running insurgency, it has left hundreds of thousands of dead and displaced more than 4.5 million people.

Currently on the agenda at the talks, which began more than a year ago and are being held in the Cuban capital Havana, is ending drug trafficking in the country.

The discussions resumed Thursday after a three week break amid differences over coca cultivation, blamed by political leaders for drug-linked violence and killings.

The FARC also rejected allegations they were "narco-guerrillas" and pursued "narco-terrorism" by claiming these accusations came about due to "a need by the right to find a new enemy after the disappearance of the Soviet bloc."

The FARC, Colombia's largest rebel group, has 7,000 to 8,000 fighters.

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Men tried to decapitate British soldier, trial hears

LONDON (AFP) - Two men accused of the gruesome murder of a British soldier tried to hack off his head in broad daylight on a London street to avenge the deaths of Muslims abroad, their trial heard Friday.

Michael Adebolajo, 28, and Michael Adebowale, 22, are accused of murdering 25-year-old Lee Rigby in May as he walked to his barracks in Woolwich, south London.

The two defendants, both Britons of Nigerian descent, deny the murder charge in the trial at London's Old Bailey court.

Rigby's relatives walked out of the courtroom in tears as the jury heard harrowing evidence including a video of Adebolajo, with blood-stained hands, saying they killed him "because Muslims are dying daily by British soldiers".

Prosecutor Richard Whittam said the pair had run Rigby over with a car, knocking him unconscious, before attacking him with knives and a meat cleaver in a "cowardly and callous murder".

They dragged his body into the middle of the road because

"they wanted members of the public to see the consequence of what can only be described as their barbarous acts", he said.

"They both attacked the motionless body of Lee Rigby," Whittam told the jury of eight women and four men.

"He was repeatedly stabbed and it appears it was Michael Adebolajo, the first defendant, who made a serious and almost successful attempt to decapitate Lee Rigby with multiple blows to his neck made with the meat cleaver.

"At the same time... Michael Adebowale was using a knife to stab and cut at Lee Rigby's body."

One witness, Whittam said, compared Adebolajo's actions to "a butcher attacking a joint of meat".

Jurors were also saw a video recorded on a mobile phone showing Adebolajo describing the attack as "an eye for an eye".

"The only reason we've killed this man today is because Muslims are dying daily by British soldiers," he says to

the camera.

When the police arrived, Adebolajo ran at a police car waving the meat cleaver and was shot by officers, the prosecutor said.

Adebowale charged at police with a gun, and was also shot.

The court was shown CCTV footage of Adebolajo buying a block of kitchen knives and a knife sharpener the day before the attack.

Rigby, the father of a young son, had joined the British army in 2006 and had served in Afghanistan, the court heard.

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1st December is World AIDS Day



PURI (AFP) - Indian sandartist Sudersan Pattnaik gives the final touches to a sand sculpture on the eve of World AIDS Day, as a horseman rides by on Golden Sea Beach in Puri, some 65 kms east of Bhubaneswar on Saturday. World AIDS Day is celebrated on December 1, every year to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and to demonstrate international solidarity in the face of the pandemic.

Indian toddler with swollen head undergoes more surgery



NEW DELHI (AFP) - Doctors conducted reconstructive surgery Friday on a two-year-old Indian girl to correct a rare disorder that caused her head to balloon to twice its normal size, a neurosurgeon said. Roona Begum, whose plight attracted international sympathy, underwent several rounds of surgery in May and June when doctors drained excess fluid from her head and dramatically reduced the size of her skull. But she returned to the same hospital near New Delhi earlier this month for what doctors hope will be a final round of surgery which will see some of the bone removed from her skull which will then be rebuilt. Roona, who lives with her impoverished parents in a village in India's remote northeast, was born with hydrocephalus, a potentially fatal condition that causes cerebrospinal fluid to build up on the brain.

Number of adolescents with HIV jumps by one-third: UN

GENEVA (AFP) - The number of adolescents infected by the HIV virus has jumped by one third over the past decade, the UN's health agency said Monday, blaming gaps in care programmes.

"More than 2 million adolescents between the ages of 10 and 19 years are living with HIV," marking a 33 percent rise since 2001, the World Health Organization said.

"Many do not receive the care and support that they need to stay in good health and prevent transmission. In addition, millions more adolescents are at risk of infection," it warned.

In the world's most AIDS-affected region, sub-Saharan Africa, the majority of adolescents with the virus are girls who have had unprotected sex, sometimes under duress.

In addition, many of those born with the virus or infected at birth in sub-Saharan Africa are becoming adolescents.

In Asia, meanwhile, young drug-users were the worst affected.

The WHO said that the failure to provide proper adolescent-focussed programmes had also resulted in a 50-percent increase in reported AIDS-related deaths in the age group from 2005 to 2012.

In 2005, 70,000 adolescents died of AIDS. Seven years later, the figure was 104,000.

That contrasted starkly with the 30-percent decline in the general population, the WHO underlined.

The year 2005 marked the high point of global AIDS deaths, which hit 2.3 million. Last year, the toll was 1.6 million.

"Adolescent girls, young men who have sex with men, those who inject drugs or are subject to sexual coercion and abuse are at highest risk," said Craig McClure, head of HIV programmes at UN children's agency UNICEF.

"They face many barriers, including harsh laws, inequalities, stigma and discrimination which prevent them from accessing services that could

test, prevent, and treat HIV," McClure added.

"About one-seventh of all new HIV infections occur during adolescence. Unless the barriers are removed, the dream of an AIDS-free generation will never be realised," he insisted.

The data was issued as the WHO released its first adolescent-specific care guidelines ahead of World AIDS Day on December 1.

"Adolescents face difficult and often confusing emotional and social pressures as they grow from children into adults," said Gottfried Hirnschall, head of the WHO's HIV/AIDS Department.

"Adolescents need health services and support, tailored to their needs. They are less likely than adults to be tested for HIV and often need more support than adults to help them maintain care and to stick to treatment," he added.

Among the measures needed, the WHO said, is an end to the requirement for parental permission to have an HIV test.

In sub-Saharan Africa, it is estimated that in the 15-24 age bracket, only 10 percent of young men and 15 percent of young women know their HIV status.

In other regions, although data are scarce, access to HIV testing and counselling by vulnerable adolescents is consistently reported as being very low, the WHO said.

MERS virus strikes Jordan couple in UAE

ABU DHABI (AFP) - Two new cases of the potentially deadly MERS respiratory virus, including a heavily pregnant woman, have been reported in the United Arab Emirates, media Friday cited health authorities as saying.

A 38-year-old Jordanian resident was hospitalised with breathing problems and diagnosed to be a carrier of MERS, the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus.

His wife, who is eight months pregnant, was also hospitalised after being diagnosed as suffering from the disease, health authorities in Abu Dhabi said.

In July, the authorities reported that there had been seven MERS cases in the oil-

rich Gulf federation in which foreign residents comprise 80 percent of the population.

The World Health Organisation says it has been informed of 160 laboratory-confirmed cases of infection worldwide since September last year, including 68 deaths.

Saudi Arabia is the worst affected country, accounting for 55 deaths out of 130 confirmed cases.

Experts are struggling to understand the MERS virus, for which there is no vaccine.

It is considered a deadlier but less-transmissible cousin of the SARS virus that erupted in Asia in 2003 and infected 8,273 people, nine percent of whom died.



Post Aruba, official agent of Western Union, and Western Union respond to Typhoon Haiyan with support for relief efforts

No-Fee* money transfer transactions to the Philippines available from November 15, 2013 until November 30, 2013.



ORANJESTAD -- Post Aruba as official agent of Western Union and the Western Union Company has a multi-faceted response program that will provide support for disaster relief efforts that target the families and communities most affected by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

The Western Union Foundation is making a grant of US\$100,000 to Save the Children to support the organization's immediate response activities in the Philippines, which include providing emergency materials, meals and water to disaster victims.

In addition to grant funding from The Western Union Foundation, the Western Union Company has activated a no-fee* money transfer transaction program for Post Aruba and all other agents throughout the Caribbean*, to the Philippines, through November 30, 2013. For Post Aruba this means that the Transaction Fees are excluded but the customer will still have to pay the Foreign Exchange Commission (Government Tax).

Consumers in the United States will need to include pro-

motion code HAIYANRELIEF with their transaction at retail Agent locations to utilize the no-fee offer. Additional countries for no-fee retail activations will be announced via social media in the coming days.

Furthermore, in the Caribbean & United States, Western Union has set up a no-fee Payments contribution account benefitting the American Red Cross, to support international relief efforts in the Philippines. Donors can contribute by making a no-fee* Payments transaction at participating Western Union Agent locations, directed to the account, up to US\$5,000.

Donors will need to complete the blue section on the Western Union form at retail locations, using the company name "American Red Cross" and the code city, "RED-CROSS DC." Please write in, "Disaster Relief" as the account number.

*Western Union may make money on the exchange of currencies. Taxes may apply.

Disclaimer: Due to severity of Typhoon Haiyan, some Western Union Agent locations in the Philippines may not be immediately available.



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Don't miss today! Holidays are here with festive shopping nights at Do It Center

ORANJESTAD - Aruba's newest and most stylish home/hardware mega-mart, Do It Center, is celebrating the season and inviting all the island to join in the festivities. Now through Christmas they are featuring extended hours every Saturday evening until 8:00 PM, including entertainment.

The enormous Do It Center in Shaba has everything for fixing up the home for the holidays, from paint and building materials, to an extremely attractive collection of Xmas specialty items and decorations.

Unique Christmas lights, pillows, wall hangings and all the materials for creating personalized, decorative wreaths can be found at very reasonable prices.

Many families are making an evening of it, taking time to enjoy favorite holiday treats such as olibollen and ayaca from the in-house cafe, Do It Pizza and More.

The clean, attractive restaurant serves not only pizza, but a fresh soup and special de jour, and exceptionally pleasing prices.

Making the home spiffy and festive for the end of the year is an Aruban tradition. Whether it is a new coat of



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Google Glass wearer told to leave Seattle restaurant



SEATTLE - An engineer named Nick Starr walked into the Lost Lake Cafe in Seattle last week.

Starr was wearing Google Glass, and while browsing the menu, was told by the manager the glasses would either have to be removed and put away, or he'd have to leave.

Starr asked to see where it was written that he couldn't wear Glass in the cafe, but this couldn't be provided. He claims to have been in the cafe

wearing Glass on previous occasions, and never encountering a problem.

The Lost Lake Cafe is co-owned by David Meinert, who also owns the 5 Point Cafe in Seattle. Long time Glass watchers will recall this establishment as one of the first to ban Google Glass, saying at the time, "Ass kickings will be encouraged for violators." Despite the crossover, at the time there was no official ban on Glass, but Starr left anyway.

Women driver ban guards against evil: Saudi top cleric



RIYADH (AFP) - The grand mufti of Saudi Arabia said a ban on women driving in the conservative Gulf state protects society from "evil", in remarks published in the press on Thursday.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah al-Sheikh, in a speech delivered Wednesday in the western city of Medina, said the issue of giving women the right to drive should not be "one of society's major concerns".

The kingdom's most senior cleric called for "the matter to be considered from the perspective of protecting society from evil" which, according to him, included letting women drive.

His comments came as activists said they had been assured by Interior Minister Prince Mohammed bin Nayef that authorities were reassessing the controversial Saudi ban

on women drivers.

The absolute monarchy is the only country in the world where women are barred from driving, a regulation that has drawn condemnation from the international community.

Saudi Arabia has an all-appointed consultative Shura Council, with no elected parliament. The council makes recommendations to the government, but the king remains the absolute legislator.

At least 16 women were stopped by police during a driving protest day last month, and were fined and forced along with their male guardians to promise to obey the kingdom's laws.

In addition to the driving ban, Saudi women are forced to cover themselves from head to toe and need permission from a male guardian to travel, work and marry.

Droids dance, dogs nuzzle, humanoids speak at Madrid robot museum

MADRID (AFP) - A white robotic beagle sits wagging its tail and nuzzling anyone who pets it, while six pint-sized robots, flashing blue, pump their fists as they dance to the pop hit "Gangnam Style".

They are the stars of a new museum launched in Madrid this month, showcasing what its owners say is one of the world's top collections of robot dogs and other pet automatons.

"As far as we know this is the biggest collection of robots in Europe, and in particular of Aibo robotic dogs," said by Sony from 1999 to 2006, said the Robot Museum's manager Daniel Bayon, 39.

"They are a very important part of the museum. They are the most advanced robot dogs that have ever existed," he told AFP.

This pack of Aibos is the biggest in the world outside their native Japan, he added.

The museum houses some 140 exhibits dating from the 1980s to the present.

Among them is Nao, a walking, talking miniature humanoid developed by the French robotics company Aldebaran as an educational aid.



"I am a very special robot. I can simulate real-life behaviour," it said, in a high-pitched mechanical voice, during a recent demonstration.

"If you'll excuse me, I'll make myself a bit more comfortable," it added, sitting down on its bottom.

Nearby stood a model of R2-D2, the classic bleeping droid first seen on movie screens in "Star Wars" in 1977.

Since opening nearly two weeks ago, tickets for guided visits to the small museum underneath the Juegetronica games store in central Madrid have sold out several times, Bayon said.

The owner of the collection, local technology enthusiast Pablo Medrano, said most of the models on display are no longer for sale in shops.

The museum is "perhaps the only dedicated robot museum in Europe outside of universities and training centres where we can see this technology of the future," Medrano, 39, told AFP.

"I want robots to be able to help us, just as household appliances and computers are helping us, which years ago was unthinkable. I hope that in a few years robots will meet our daily needs, particularly those of old people."

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US stocks mostly lower on shortened 'Black Friday'

NEW YORK (AFP) - US stocks Friday closed a holiday-shortened session mostly lower despite some early statements by retailers reporting a successful launch to the critical holiday shopping season.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 10.92 (0.07 percent) at 16,036.41.

The broad-based S&P 500 declined 1.42 (0.03 percent) to 1,805.81, while the tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index rose 15.14 (0.37 percent) to 4,059.89.

Retail giants Wal-Mart Stores and Target both reported "record" openings to the critical "Black Friday" shopping weekend, which kicks off the holiday shopping period. The period between Thanksgiving and New Year's accounts for about 20 percent of annual retail sector sales.

Despite the positive comments, analysts have expressed concerns that profits among retailers may suffer due to a hyper-competitive promotional market in which retailers are cutting prices to try to lure tight-fisted consumers in the low-growth economy.

Retail stocks had a mixed day. Walmart gained 0.1 percent, The Gap rose 0.5 percent and JC Penney tacked on 1.1 percent, while Target dipped

0.8 percent and Macy's lost 0.5 percent.

Technology stocks continued to ride high after the Nasdaq closed above 4,000 earlier this week for the first time in 13 years. Apple jumped 1.9 percent, Dow component Microsoft advanced 1.4 percent and eBay added 2.5 percent.

Agricultural giant Archer Daniels Midland fell 3.0 percent after Australia rejected its proposed \$2.7 billion takeover of grain handler GrainCorp.

Australian Treasurer Joe Hockey said the sector was still moving towards more robust competition and that a foreign takeover of the biggest grain handler in eastern Australia could undermine public support for foreign investment in general.

Oil and gas producer Pioneer Natural Resources fell 0.7 percent after announcing that severe weather forced it to cut output in a number of major projects. The company said an "extensive recovery period is expected" and that the outages were not accounted for in previous forecasts.

NEW YORK - Walmart reported "record-breaking" Black Friday sales, despite protests against the retail giant's labor practices, reports of violence amid frenzied shoppers and predictions that pre-Thanksgiving discounts would dampen consumer enthusiasm for the traditional shopping day. Kory Lundberg, a spokesman for the chain said that in a span of four hours Thursday evening, Walmart stores across the nation processed 10 million register transactions. On Thanksgiving, Walmart.com received 400 million page views, and on Friday, by noon, customers had purchased 2.8 million towels, 2 million televisions and 1.4 computer tablets. Aside from the protests, there were sporadic reports of fighting breaking out among shoppers at Walmart and other superstores, as they launched the holiday shopping season sales events.

Netherlands loses top credit rating on weak growth

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Netherlands on Friday dropped out of the exclusive club of "AAA" rated countries after Standard & Poor's agency downgraded it to "AA+", citing weakening growth prospects.

The surprising downgrade leaves only three remaining countries in the 17-nation eurozone with the coveted top rating from all three of the world's major agencies.

S&P meanwhile upped Cyprus' long-term rating to a B- and improved Spain's BBB-rating from a negative outlook to stable.

"The downgrade reflects our opinion that the Netherlands' growth prospects are now weaker than we had previously anticipated," S&P wrote in a statement.

The "real GDP (gross domestic product) per capita trend growth rate is persistently lower than that of peers in similarly high levels of economic development."

The long-term outlook for the Netherlands, the eurozone's fifth-largest economy, was stable.

The world's two other major ratings agencies, Fitch and Moody's have so far maintained the lowland country's rating at AAA.

Earlier this month the Dutch central statistics office (CBS) said the economy slowly moved out of recession in the third quarter with growth of 0.1 percent.

However, year-on-year the Dutch economy shrank by 0.6 percent, the CBS added.

Explaining the downgrade, S&P specifically pointed to a drop in consumer spending, dampened by high household debt levels and falling property prices.

Quoting Dutch Central Bank (DNB) figures, S&P said



that 16.0 percent of all Dutch households in a country of 16.7 million people have mortgage debts higher than the values of their properties.

The statistics office said in March that real disposable income last year for households in the Netherlands has fallen for the fifth year in a row, the longest run since 1982.

"We do not anticipate that the real economic output will surpass 2008 levels before 2017," S&P added.

But despite the less promising economic prospects, "the policy consensus in favour of containing public debt and deficits will be maintained," the agency said.

The Netherlands in September unveiled its 2014 budget, which includes 6.0 billion euros (\$8.0 bn) in cuts, but the government encountered stiff opposition before getting it passed.

"Generally, reduced government spending has weighed on growth," S&P said.

Eurogroup finance chief and Dutch Finance Minister Jeroen Dijsselbloem said he did not expect the downgrade to have an effect on interest the Netherlands paid on its debts.

"Of course we are disappointed that there has been a downgrade," Dijsselbloem told the ANP news agency.

But he did not "expect it to

have a substantial effect on interest.

"You can see it has already been anticipated in the market. The Netherlands remains one of the most creditworthy countries in the world," Dijsselbloem said.

On the secondary markets following the rating change, the borrowing rate on Netherlands sovereign debt was only slightly higher to 2.042 percent, from 2.027 percent late Thursday.

Rene Defossez, an analyst at the Paris-based Natixis bank said S&P has "validated what investors have already noted and integrated for a while."

"Investors are now much more reserved when it comes to the advice by ratings agencies, because they have their own means of risk analysis," he said.

For Spain, S&P said the outlook was gradually recovering thanks to exports coupled with fiscal and structural reforms.

In Cyprus, which moves up from a CCC+, S&P said immediate risks to the implementation of reforms were reduced.

Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades said S&P's rating change will "foster the gradual restoration of confidence in the Cypriot economy."

Only 10 countries worldwide, including seven in Europe, now retain the holy-grail AAA rating from the world's three major ratings agencies, Standard & Poor's, Fitch and Moody's.

Among these, seven countries maintain a stable outlook on sovereign debt: Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, Australia, Canada and Singapore.

The other three -- Germany, Luxembourg and Finland all have their triple A status threatened by a negative outlook assigned by at least one of the three agencies.

Triple A status is the best rating that can be given to a country's debts, indicating that its risk of defaulting on payments was miniscule.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

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COMICS

PICKLES



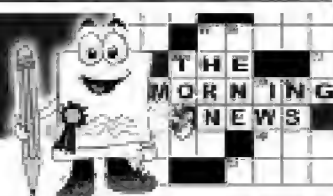
MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

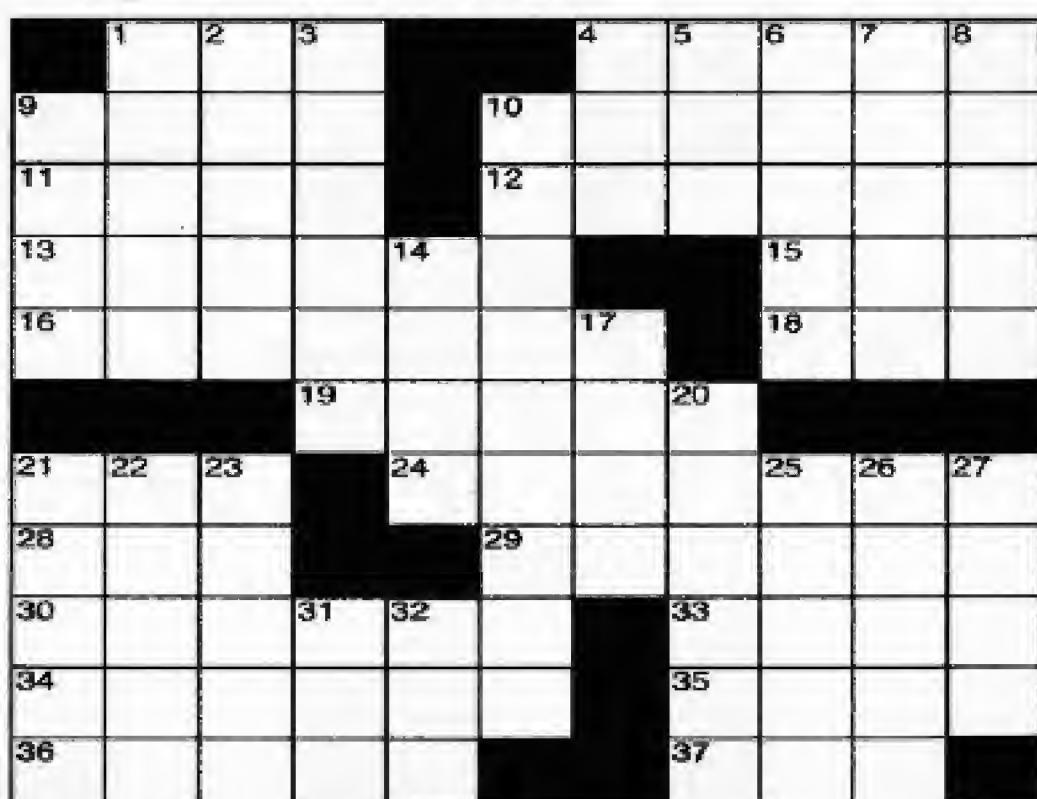
- 1 Pop's wife
4 Mucilage
9 Small amount
10 Red, green, and blue
11 Dutch ____
12 Words of greeting
13 The Barber of Seville
15 "____ Lost You"
16 Drinking vessels
18 Cozy retreat
19 Entertainer Buddy
21 Curious
24 Church tower
28 Dolores Del ____
29 Spontaneous performance, informally
30 North European body of water
33 Arizona Indian

- 34 Fortunate (2 wds.)
35 Motorcyclist
36 Delicious
37 Jazzman Montgomery

DOWN

- 1 "Citizen Kane," e.g.
2 From alpha to ____
3 Dennis, e.g.

- 4 "The Bells" poet
5 Detergent brand
6 Firm
7 Treasure ____
8 German city
9 Gentle
10 It works nice with rice
14 Chafes
17 Appear
20 William, to Andrew
21 Emulate John
22 Singer Glenn
23 Barbie and Ken, e.g.
25 Substantiate
26 Canters
27 Like a villain
31 Egyptian boy-king
32 Frosty



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BOTICA

DRUG STORES OPEN AFTER HOURS

Nov. 30 - Dec. 07

O'stad : ' Botica Sta. Cruz ' - S.N: '4 Centro Medico'

Center for Hemodialysis
Posada Clinic Aruba
Tel.580-2840/Pager 127-2446

INFORMATION
Telephone 118

Twelve Step Meetings
24 hours helpline 583-8989

Fellowship Clinic S.N.
Free treatment of
Alcoholism
and Drug Addiction
Anonymity guaranteed
Tel. 584-5440

SOS TELEAYUDO SOS
Telephone Helpline
583-1190
Mon.-Thu. 9 p.m.-12 midn.
Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

CAS MARIE
Alzheimer's Day
Care Center
Tel: 5696910

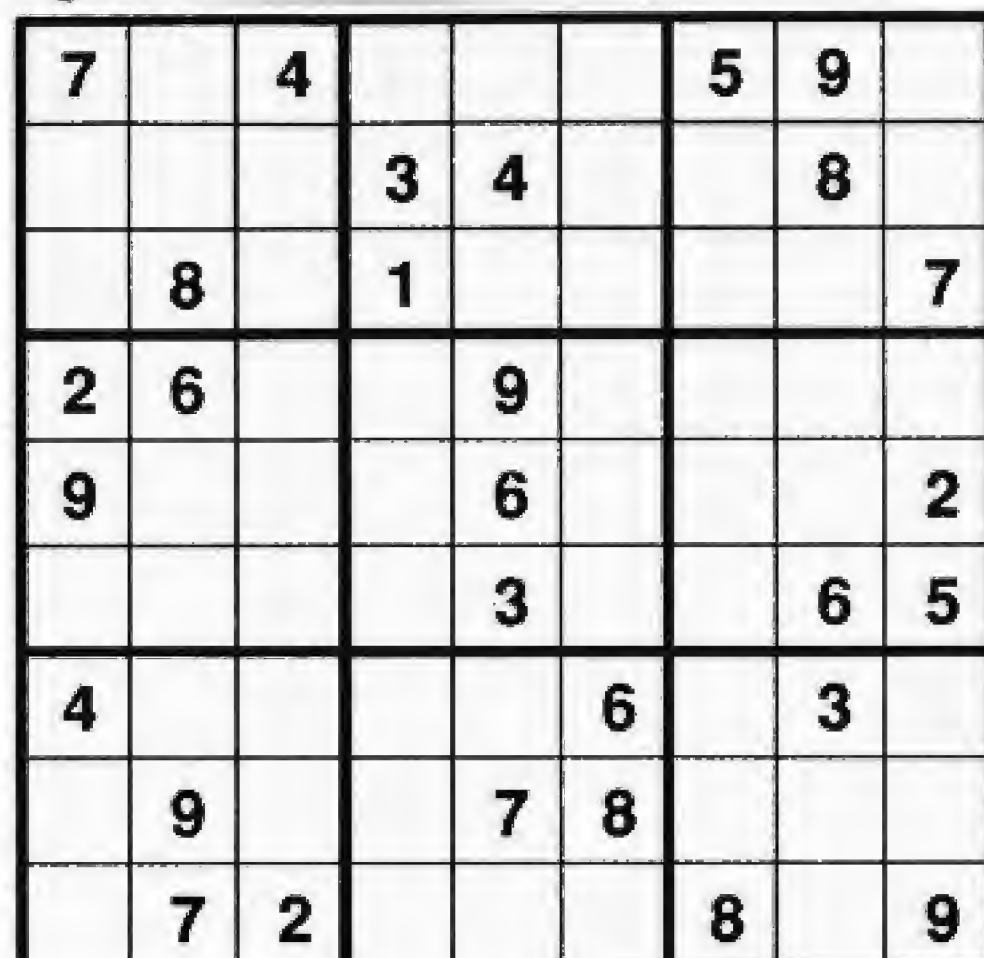
Important
Telephone
Numbers

HOSPITAL
Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel.5274000
EMERGENCY
Telephone 911
POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

TAXI
C.V. TAS
587-1998, 587-5900
In Oranjestad:
Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604
582-5447
In San Nicolas
Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602
professional taxi services
Tel. 588-0035

Al Anon Meetings
Mondays 6-7pm
Sabana Liber 8 in Noord
Tel: 5673356 / 5838989

Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	5	8	6	1	9	2	2	9
7	2	9	8	2	5	6	6	1
1	6	2	9	2	6	8	5	7
5	9	6	1	6	2	2	7	8
2	2	7	5	9	8	1	6	6
8	1	6	9	6	2	5	9	2
2	7	2	6	5	1	9	8	6
9	8	1	2	7	6	6	2	9
6	6	5	2	8	9	7	1	2

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

O Condominiums

A small, exclusive boutique condo resort tailored to your taste



Aruba's most successful developers of secure, superior communities for both the permanent and part time resident market, will soon break ground on what they consider their most exclusive project to date. Known for 16 years of unmatched quality and service, the Cas Bon people are proud to unveil their new pet

project: O Condominiums. This is the same company which developed the innovative Gold Coast Villas community in Malmok.

Renowned for reliable construction, developers of O Condominiums consider the boutique community will be the "jewel in the crown" of the nine projects they have successfully completed and

maintain. It is only three stories and twenty luxurious units, of which 14 will be oceanfront, the remainder, ocean view. Sizes range from one bedroom condominiums with a bath and a half to three-bedrooms, each bedroom with its own bath, and an additional guest half/bath. The designs include a family entertainment room that will

be specially fitted with electronic and Internet connections and outlets enabling a state-of-the-art-home theater. An important aspect of this singular facility is owners have various options to customize kitchens and fixtures to their particular tastes and standards.

Each apartment sports an extremely spacious 35 square meter covered terrace overlooking the sea. Windows will be double-paned and doors

have weather stripping to insure less cost on air-conditioning, which is integrated into construction. Homeowners will have input into the finishing they prefer in the kitchen and other rooms, to customize your condominium to your taste. Public amenities will include an elegant pool deck, concierge

services, lounge area, BBQ station, fitness room, assigned parking, additional outside storage for bicycles and personal items, and 24-hour security. A quiet, secluded section of Eagle beach is only a few steps from the front door.

O Condominiums officially opened the doors of their sales office onsite at Eagle Beach on December 24. Interested parties can inspect the project in a spacious plot right next to the gourmet Screaming Eagle restaurant. The project is directed towards discerning clients seeking a top quality property on Aruba in an ideal, tranquil, beachfront location. Prospective property owners will find the Cas Bon people enjoy an exceptional reputation on Aruba for excellence and reliability.

Contact the sales office at 297-732-0000/ 297-287-5300 or visit their website: <http://www.o-eaglebeach.aruba.com>

Discover authentic Aruban cuisine at *The Queen's*



Enjoy a true taste of Aruba without having to travel in the charming surroundings of The Queen's Restaurant in the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. Your host, Varella Innocencia has brought her very popular Oranjestad eatery to Palm Beach, showcasing authentic local cuisine only a short walk away from the major resorts.

The "hipper" and elegant new digs offer beautiful views, but Mama Luisa's magical touch in the kitchen is what

first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. She can be counted on to be conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations. As Varella says, "My mom loves and lives to cook. Even when she is not at work in the restaurant, she is experimenting with new dishes all day at home."

She is the Queen of the Kitchen."

Be sure to try Luisa's acclaimed "Carni Stoba di Ma-

machi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," or their fresh, whole snapper, with Mama Luisa's delectable salsa criollo. Don't miss the specialty of the house, a favorite local delicacy, Keshi Yena - "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It is satisfying and particularly memorable. Regional side dishes and some of Mama's secret recipe prepara-

tion of banana hasa and creamy potatoes provide a deliciously picturesque meal.

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to go, reasonably priced and easily accessible. A full menu can be seen on their website, <http://www.thequeensaruba.com/>.

Mama Luisa hard at work in the kitchen

Aside from an extensive regular menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season, and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't be shy about asking for something that may not be on the menu, as they are always eager to please.

The Queen's is open daily from 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm, offering both indoor and outdoor dining.

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Football: FIFA calls for anti-doping overhaul

ZURICH (AFP) - Football world governing body FIFA called Friday for an overhaul in the approach to the fight against doping in sport.

Just two weeks after the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) conference in Johannesburg, FIFA held their own conference at the organisation's headquarters in Zurich.

And their conclusion was that the approach to anti-doping should be based on risk within individual sports rather than conformity across all sports.

"The management of risks should be based on the evaluation of risks," said FIFA's chief medical officer Jiri Dvorak, who claimed there was a huge difference between team sports and individual sports when it comes to doping.

That idea is backed up by WADA's statistics.

Of 374,000 dope tests in 2012, 1.2 percent gave abnormal results with 0.42 percent testing positive for anabolic steroids.

In 230,000 tests conducted in football from 2005 to 2013, the level of positive tests for such steroids was just 0.04 percent.

According to Dvorak, the fight against doping in football is not cost effective.

"In football we have to spend \$2.5 million (1.84m euros) to catch one case of anabolic steroids. In sport in general, it's \$250,000.

Alpine skiing: Gut wins Beaver Creek World Cup downhill



BEAVER CREEK (AFP) - Switzerland's Lara Gut won the first downhill of the women's alpine World Cup season on Friday on the new Raptor course built for the 2015 World Championships.

Gut continued a strong start to a season that will be highlighted by the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia, notching her second victory in three races after her giant slalom triumph in Soelden, Austria, last month.

The 22-year-old, who is aiming for Olympic glory in February after she missed the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games recovering from a hip injury, clocked 1min 41.26sec to beat Liechtenstein's Tina Weirather by 47-hundredths of a second.

Italy's Elena Fanchini was third, 98-hundredths behind the winner.

Gut, who had already shown her mastery of the unfamiliar course with two top times in three training runs, took her career tally of World Cup wins to five.

She was looking forward to a chance to add to that total with two more races in Beaver Creek at the weekend.

It was another disappointing day for Slovenia's Tina Maze, the reigning giant slalom and overall World Cup title holder.

Maze, who finished a stunning 18th in the giant slalom in Soelden, again failed to crack the top 20.

Reigning Olympic downhill champion Lindsey Vonn was a notable absentee.

Vonn had planned to make her return to competition here for the first time since reconstructive surgery on her right knee in the wake of a crash at the World Championships last February.

But Vonn partially tore one of the repaired ligaments in the knee in a fall on a training run last week at nearby Copper Mountain.

The US star has said she might be able to race next week at Lake Louise, Canada, and fully expects to be ready to defend her downhill crown in Sochi.

NBA: Sprained knee sidelines Lin



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Houston Rockets guard Jeremy Lin will miss two weeks with a sprained right knee, the NBA team said Friday. A statement on the team's Twitter feed said Lin was hurt in the first quarter of the Rockets' 113-84 victory over Atlanta on Wednesday. Lin, the Taiwanese-American who became an NBA sensation as a Knicks reserve-turned-star in the 2011-2012 season, had started the last three games for the Rockets in place of James Harden, who was nursing a sore foot. The Rockets hoped to have Harden back on Friday when they hosted the Brooklyn Nets, although he was listed as a game-time decision. In 16 games this season, Lin is averaging 15.3 points and 4.5 assists. The Rockets said his injury status would be reevaluated in a fortnight.

Formula One: Lotus confirm Maldonado signing



PARIS (AFP) - Venezuelan Pastor Maldonado has been named as Lotus' driver for the 2014 season alongside France's Romain Grosjean, the team officially confirmed on Friday. Maldonado has spent three seasons with Williams, winning the Spanish Grand Prix in 2012, but only notched up one point this season with his 10th place in Hungary. The 28-year-old, supported by state-owned Venezuelan oil and gas giant PDVSA, announced at the start of the month he was quitting the team, leading to talks with Lotus and Sauber. The Venezuelan should bring 35 million euros (\$47.7m) annual sponsorship from PDVSA to the financially struggling Lotus team, who failed to pay Finn Kimi Raikkonen part of his salary this season. Raikkonen, who joins Ferrari next season, missed the last two Grands Prix of the year in the United States and Brazil after deciding to undergo back surgery.





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NFL: Lions, Cowboys, Ravens take US Thanksgiving triumphs

DETROIT (AFP) - The Detroit Lions and Dallas Cowboys won their annual US Thanksgiving home games Thursday to seize NFL division leads while reigning Super Bowl champion Baltimore moved into a playoff position.

Detroit's Matthew Stafford tossed three touchdown passes and the Lions won on Thanksgiving for the first time since 2003, beating Green Bay 40-10 to grab the NFC North lead at 7-5.

At Dallas, DeMarco Murray ran for a career-best three touchdowns to power the Cowboys over Oakland 31-24 and seize the NFC East lead at 7-5.

And Baltimore improved to 6-6 with a 22-20 home victory

Tucker added a 45-yard field goal but Pittsburgh answered when rookie Le'Veon Bell scored on a 1-yard touchdown run to pull within 19-14 with 9:32 remaining.

Tucker's fifth field goal of the game and 27th successful attempt in a row was a 48-yarder that gave the Ravens an eight-point lead.

Roethlisberger fired a 1-yard touchdown pass to Jericho Cotchery with 63 seconds remaining to pull the Steelers within 22-20 but Sanders dropped a 2-point conversion pass from "Big Ben" and Pittsburgh botched an onside kick attempt to hand Baltimore the triumph.

Sunday's games find New England at Houston, Tampa Bay at Carolina, Jacksonville at Cleveland, Miami at the New York Jets, Tennessee at Indianapolis, Atlanta at Buffalo, Cincinnati at San Diego, the New York Giants at Washington, St. Louis at San Francisco and a showdown of 9-2 AFC West co-leaders with Denver at Kansas City.

New Orleans and Seattle, the winningest teams in the National Conference, meet on Monday night.

over Pittsburgh, with Justin Tucker kicking five field goals to push the Ravens into the last American Conference playoff spot with five weeks to go in the regular season.

Detroit's Stafford completed 22 of 35 passes for 330 yards and, even though he threw two interceptions and lost a fumble that led to a Packer touchdown, the Lions' defense forced four turnovers and allowed Green Bay only 123 total yards.

Detroit posted seven quarterback sacks, two fumble recoveries, an interception and a safety as the Lions took the first win in their annual Thanksgiving home game since beating the Packers 22-14 a decade ago.

Reggie Bush ran 20 times for 117 yards, caught five passes for 65 yards and scored a touchdown and Calvin Johnson caught six passes for 101 yards and a touchdown.

The Lions, seeking their first division title in 19 years, moved ahead of Chicago,

which would join them at 7-5 with a victory Sunday at Minnesota.

At Dallas, Oakland's Greg Jenkins produced a rare score on a team kicking off the ball when he recovered a fumble and ran it back 24 yards for a touchdown on the opening play of the game for the Raiders.

Murray answered with a 2-yard touchdown run for Dallas set up by an Oakland fumble but the Raiders seized a 21-7 lead on a pair of 1-yard touchdown runs by Rashad Jennings.

But the Raiders did not score again until the dying seconds while Dallas added 4- and 7-yard touchdown runs by Murray and Tony Romo's 4-yard touchdown pass to Dez Bryant.

The Cowboys moved ahead of Philadelphia atop the NFC East but the Eagles can pull level with Dallas at 7-5 by beating Arizona on Sunday.

At Baltimore, the host Ravens grabbed a 10-0 half-

time lead on Joe Flacco's 7-yard touchdown pass to Torrey Smith and a 43-yard Tucker field goal.

Tucker kicked field goals of 34 and 38 yards around an 8-yard Steelers touchdown pass from Ben Roethlisberger to Emmanuel Sanders to give the Ravens a 16-7 lead entering the fourth quarter.

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NFL: Steelers' Gay fined \$15,750 for Campbell hit

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Pittsburgh Steelers cornerback William Gay has been fined \$15,750 (11,590 euros) by the NFL for a high hit on Cleveland quarterback Jason Campbell on Sunday.

Gay wasn't penalized on the play, but the league's review found he "unnecessarily delivered a forcible blow to his opponent's head and neck area".

Campbell suffered a concussion and hasn't practised this week, and Browns offensive coordinator Norv Turner said it was clear he was hit in the facemask of his helmet.

"I thought he got hit in the face mask right from the beginning and then obviously you see the replay and it's really easy to see from all the angles except the one that the referee had -- he's standing behind," Turner said.

In other punishments revealed on Friday, Houston defensive lineman Antonio Smith was fined \$15,750 for hitting Jaguars passer Chad Henne in the head and neck area in the Texans' loss to Jacksonville.

Dolphins pass rusher Cameron Wake was fined \$15,750 for a hit on Carolina quarterback Cam Newton in the Panthers' 20-16 win over Miami.

New Orleans Saints defensive end Cameron Jordan was docked \$10,000 for a hit on Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan that drew a roughing the passer penalty.

Oft-penalized Detroit Lions defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh was docked \$7,875 for his throat slashing gesture in a game against Tampa Bay.

The fine pales against the \$100,000 he was docked earlier this season for a low hit on Minnesota's John Sullivan.

He was also fined \$31,500 for leading with his helmet in a tackle of Cleveland quarterback Brandon Weeden this year.

The sanctions are more of the same for Suh, who has been fined multiple times in the course of his career and met with league commissioner Roger Goodell to discuss his play during the 2011 season.

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Boxing: Britain's Bellew vows to manhandle Adonis

QUEBEC CITY (AFP) - Britain's Tony Bellew landed plenty of verbal jabs Wednesday as he vowed to take the World Boxing Council light heavyweight crown from Canadian southpaw Adonis Stevenson when they meet today.

The Englishman, who turns 31 the day of the fight, has a height and reach edge on 36-year-old Stevenson, who defends for the second time the title he took from US southpaw Chad Dawson in June.

Haitian-born Canadian Stevenson, 22-1 with 19 knockouts, has stopped all nine foes he has faced since suffering his lone loss in 2010, a second-round loss to American Darnell Boone, whose 19-21-3 record gave Liverpool's Bellew another taunt for the champion.

Bellew, 20-1 with 12 knockouts, suffered his only loss in his only prior world title fight, falling by majority decision to Welshman Nathan Cleverly two years ago. He has four wins and a draw since, avenging a March draw with a triumph last May over Malawi's Isaac Chilemba in his most recent bout.

Mundine eyes Mayweather after beating Mosley



SYDNEY (AFP) - Former Australian rugby league star turned boxer Anthony Mundine is eyeing a bout with Floyd Mayweather as the ultimate prize after beating superstar "Sugar" Shane Mosley.

Mundine emerged the winner at Sydney's Allphones Arena on Wednesday evening against the veteran American fighter when Mosley retired after the sixth round with severe back spasms.

It was the biggest scalp of Mundine's career, earning him the vacant WBA International super welterweight title on a technical knockout, and the peerless Mayweather, with an unbeaten 45-0 record, is now in his sights.

While the win should im-

prove his chances of a crack at Mayweather, Mundine said he was prepared to face the likes of former champions and Mayweather victims, Miguel Cotto and Saul Alvarez, on his way to the lucrative fight he is after.

"I just want the best, I don't care," Mundine, 38, told Australian Associated Press.

"Obviously I want Floyd, he's the best of the best. But that's not going to happen next."

"You've got to do your time and beat the right fighters. There's Cotto out there, there's Alvarez. They are the type of calibre of fighters I want to fight."

Mayweather beat Mexico's Alvarez in September to claim the unified super welterweight championship in Las Vegas in

what was the richest fight in boxing history with nearly US\$150 million in pay-per-view revenues.

An honest Mosley, who has won five world titles in three weight classes and announced his retirement after losing to Alvarez last year only to change his mind, admitted Mundine was ahead when he decided to call it quits.

Mundine paid tribute to his opponent as one of the all-time greats.

"My heart goes out to Shane, I know he's a winner," said the Australian of the 42-year-old, whose future is now unclear.

"He's not one to pull out for nothing. He's one of the greatest fighters to have ever lived."

